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Holder

DECISION



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20548

21566

FILE: B-207008

DATE: April 21, 1982

MATTER OF: Worthington Group, McGraw-Edison Company

DIGEST:

Protest that competitive procurement should have been conducted on a sole-source basis is dismissed since protest is based on apparent improprieties in solicitation and should have been filed with GAO prior to the closing date for receipt of quotations.

Worthington Group, McGraw-Edison Company (Worthington) protests award of a contract to RAM Enterprises to supply parts, issued by the Navy Ship Parts Control Center (Navy) under request for quotations (RFQ) No. RC462113652G95.

We dismiss the protest.

The protester contends that the solicited parts should be procured from Worthington, the original equipment manufacturer, on a sole-source basis because only its part will ensure proper performance of the repaired equipment.

Regarding the contention that the solicitation should not have been a competitive procurement, section 21.1(b)(1) of our Bid Protest Procedures, 4 C.F.R. part 21 (1981), requires that a protest alleging an impropriety apparent from an RFQ be filed prior to the closing date for receipt of quotations. The Navy informally advises that Worthington submitted a quotation in response to this RFQ, and Worthington's letter of protest was not filed until after it was advised by the Navy of the award to RAM. Thus, since Worthington's protest was filed after the closing date for receipt of quotations, it will not be considered.

We also point out with regard to Worthington's contention that only Worthington can supply the required part that, in view of the objective of our bid protest

function to insure full and free competition for Government contracts, as a general matter, our Office will not review a protest that an agency should procure an item from a particular firm on a sole-source basis.
Ingersoll-Rand, B-206066, February 3, 1982, 82-1 CPD 83;
Ingersoll-Rand Company, B-203727, July 2, 1981, 81-2
CPD 6.

We dismiss the protest.

Harry R. Van Cleve
Harry R. Van Cleve
Acting General Counsel